

EVACUATION OF THE SEAT OF WAR.

The Times correspondent writes from Constantinople on the 31st ult.—It is but three months and a few days since the exchange of the ratifications of the treaty, and not only the Crimea but Turkey likewise is evacuated by the whole British army. Her Majesty's ship Resolute taken on board the last detachment of the infantry depot of Scutari three months before the time allotted by the convention. Of all the thousands who formed the British force in the East, there will be only fifteen men remaining to-morrow with General Stokes, as orderlies. Forty-five battalions of British infantry, 13 regiments of cavalry, 20 batteries of field and horse artillery, the largest siege train the world ever saw, augmented by no small number of Russian guns, 15,000 men, (cardinal troops) with all their material, and six regiments of the Foreign Legion, have been taken away, part to England, part to different points in the Mediterranean; while 20,000 of the Turkish contingents were brought down from Ketchik to Constantinople. Besides this, mountain stores and provisions have been removed within the same period of time, and either sold or transported to England. It is especially in the respect that the military and naval authorities at Constantinople deserve praise for their early activity and management. Warned by the sad experience of the winter of 1854-55, the home authorities fell, in that of 1855-56, into the other extreme, and heaped up stores and provisions in such abundance that they would have been sufficient for twice the number of the British army. Although this was a fault on the right side, yet when peace came, the embarrassments were not diminished by it. Losses were actual and inevitable, and the question was to devise the means by which these losses could be reduced to the smallest amount. The freight of vessels being, if anything, rather higher than during the war, the carrying back of cumbersome stores was out of the question. The great difficulty was where to draw the line. It was calculated, for instance, that the transport of a horse to England would be about £30; so all horses which were of less value were sold. In spite of the number which had to be disposed of, the sale succeeded better than could be expected, and the horses, I am told, fetched an average price of £25. The heaviest losses were made with the transport mules, which had been bought for fabulous prices; these had to be thrown on the market all at once, and only a very few were taken by the Turkish government, which proved the best customers for the horses. Another difficulty was the huts and sheds, especially those which had been built on spot, such as those at Gialova, and the barracks and stables at Ishtar Pasha. As they were erected on ground belonging to the Government or hired from private individuals, they had to be sold for the value of the materials alone, and in large lots, which restricted the number of bidders. Carts, tools, and similar articles found no market at all, as they are not used in the country; they had, therefore, all to be taken away. This was likewise the case with some kinds of provisions, such as salt meat; hay, barley, oats, and flour had a ready enough sale, but naturally at low prices, so that speculators have bought large quantities of barley to send it to the English market. The hay was mostly taken by the Turkish Government at 25s. the ton. The only thing which remains now is the settling of the respective claims of the English and Turkish Governments; Major Gordon, Royal Engineers, has been appointed to settle the military, and Captain Barlow, R. N., the naval accounts, between the two Governments. Admiral Grey and General Dork's staff, with the exception of Major Macdonald, are leaving to-day in the Resolute. With the departure of the troops all the establishments made necessary by their presence, have been likewise broken up gradually. First amongst these are the hospitals. The general hospital and that at Kuleba have been shut for some time, and both buildings given up to the Turks. The naval hospital at Scutari was closed last week, and the imperial Kiosk which contained it cleared out; about the same time the last batch of sick, 121, were embarked from the barrack hospital at Scutari. Miss Nightingale kept her departure secret, in order to avoid all kind of demonstration, and embarked with her aunt, Mrs. Smith, on board the French steamer for England. The speedy evacuation of the British army, besides being a proof of the resources of England, is even more a proof of her intention to carry out the points of the treaty to the letter spirit, nor are our allies behindhand in this respect, and if we take into account the great number of troops, the fifteen days more which it will take them to evacuate Turkey are not at all too much. They continue to display the greatest activity, and by the 15th of next month, the last French soldier will have left.

In the face of these endeavors of the allies to perform their part of the treaty, it is very satisfactory to see every day new proofs of the very contrary on the side of the Russians. As I wrote to you some time ago, they seem to give no signs of their intention of evacuating Kars, and they will still remain on the Serpents

Island. To the latter place they sent eight men, while the Turks have sent 50 and an officer to induce them to withdraw. The commission in Bessarabia is at a complete standstill, through the excuse of the necessity of referring everything to St. Petersburg. All these signs of a not very conciliatory disposition have induced the allied governments to take steps to show the Russians that, although the allied armies have been withdrawn, France and England have still the means of enforcing the observance of the treaty, and Lord Lyons has received the order to send a flotilla to the Black Sea. Accordingly, two days ago, Admiral Sir Houston Stewart went up in the Hannibal to S-hastopol, to show the British flag; thence he will proceed to Odessa and some other places. At the same time Her Majesty's steamer Gladiator, Captain Hillier, and the gun-boat Snake, went to observe the mouths of the Danube. No French vessel has yet gone, but should the Russians persist in keeping Kars and not leaving the Serpents Island, they will probably follow too.

A Frenchman, lately arrived from Sebastopol, reports that the Russians have raised four of the sunken vessels—two steamers, a large corvette, and a frigate—and have set to repairing them. This latter part seems scarcely credible, as, according to the very best naval authorities, none of the sunken vessels could ever be made serviceable.

Besides this Russian complication, there seems to be another threatening. The Turks, in taking possession of Ismail, have raised there the Turkish flag. The Austrian agent there has protested, giving as the reason of his protest that the territory having been ceded to Moldavia, not to Turkey, the Turks had no right to hoist their flag there. This protest is tantamount to a protest against the sovereignty of the Porte in the Principality, and the more strange, as even in Serbia, which is at least as independent of the Porte as the Principality, nobody ever questioned the right of the latter to hoist its flag on the fortresses. Nevertheless, Count Baul has supported the protest of his agent, which is in direct contradiction with the assurance given by the Austrian interuncio to the Turkish government.

OUT OF FAVOUR AGAIN.—It is rumoured among diplomatic men here, that General Mouravieff's resignation of the Caucasian Government and general command results from serious difference of opinion upon administrative and military questions between that brave soldier and the council of state, supported by the Emperor. This is not the first time during the general's career, that he has ventured to differ with the highest authorities. On the former occasion, a long disgrace followed, and it was not until about the year 1853, that he was replaced on active service and appointed to the command of the corps of Grenadiers.

The summer of 1812, 1814, 1818, 1836, and 1856 are the hottest remembered in Ireland by the "oldest inhabitant." It was exceedingly hot in 1826, but we believe the present weather to be more so.

A singular circumstance occurred at the Strasburg railway station, when the Emperor arrived on Saturday—either from the swelling of the wood or a derangement in the lock—it was found impossible to open the door of his Majesty's carriage, and he had, after waiting some time, to clamber through the window as best he could. All his suite followed in the same way, except one fat unfortunate, who had to be dragged out by force.

The 17th is the day fixed for the departure of the Emperor and Empress to Biarritz; but the Emperor will not remain there more than a few days with the Empress, though her intention is to stop a month. This new separation of the imperial couple, so shortly after a separation of some weeks' duration, has given rise to much comment.

Marshal Vaillant, as *locum tenens* for the minister of public worship, has addressed a circular to the different archbishops and bishops, calling their attention to the fact that the present year has been memorable for the birth of a prince imperial at the moment of the signature of a glorious peace, and requesting them to order that a "Te Deum" shall be sung in all the churches of their respective dioceses on the 15th inst., the fête day of the Emperor, as a mark of gratitude to Providence for those blessings.

The *Moniteur* announces, that Marshal Pelissier, by an imperial decree, is named Duke of Malakoff. A law is to be presented to the Legislative body for a grant of 100,000*l.* a year to accompany this title.

LITERATURE IN TURKEY.—The council of state, which has taken up the subject of public instruction in the Turkish empire, made a few days ago some useful suggestions for the diffusion of knowledge and instruction. One of them has reference to the imperial printing establishment, and the other has been made with the object of facilitating the purchase of printed books in the provinces. As regards the first, the council of state is anxious to remove the anomaly which places the imperial printing establishment under the control of the ministry of finance, like most other establishments of the treasury. This could pass as long as there was no special branch of the government to whose sphere this establishment could be referred, but there exists now a council of public instruction specially entrusted with everything connected with education and the propagation of knowledge, which must be supposed to be more fit to superintend this establishment than a committee of the ministry of finance. The latter, however, adheres to its right of managing the printing department, and hitherto the council of state could not carry on its views in this respect. I need not tell you, that it is not so much a love of books or a mania for printing which makes the minister of finance obstinate as the anxiety to have the management of the capital of the imperial printing establishment; and yet they cannot exactly boast of the results of their management, at any rate as far as the printing is concerned, for their activity is nearly at a standstill. The reason of this is, that a number of heavy scientific works have been printed, which have scarcely any sale at all, and thus a considerable part of the capital is lying dead and profitless. The council of state now proposes to make some alteration in this respect, to sell at any price those cumbersome folios, and print with the proceeds books more for the people than for the learned, giving thus a little life and activity to the establishment. The other suggestion, as I said, has for its object to facilitate the purchase of books in the provinces. This is nearly impossible under the present circumstances—first, because there are no booksellers except in the large towns, and they sell the books at three and four times their price, which in most cases amounts to a prohibition. The council of state proposes to have circulars issued to the *Moudirs* of every district, with a list of the books which are sold at the printing establishment, and the prices. Every one who wants to get one of the books would only have to deposit the price with the *Moudiri*, or revenue collector, and get the book sent by the post, which will carry books at a reduced rate—namely at five pence every package under one cwt, or 23 lb, for forty hours, or 120 miles; while all other articles have to pay double, or ten pence.—*Constantinople correspondent of the Times.*

THE MOON.—Dr. Scoresby, in an account that he has given of some recent observations made with the Earl of Rosse's telescope, says:—"With respect to the moon every object on its surface of one hundred feet was now distinctly to be seen, and he had no doubt that, under favourable circumstances, it would be so with objects sixty feet in height. On its surface were craters of extinct volcanoes, rocks, and masses of stones almost innumerable. He had no doubt that if such a building as he was then in were upon the surface of the moon, it would be rendered distinctly visible by these instruments. But there were no signs of inhabitants such as ours—no vestige of architecture remains to show that the moon is or ever was inhabited by a race of mortals similar to ourselves. It presented no appearance which could lead to the supposition that it contained any thing like the green fields and lovely verdure of this beautiful world of ours. There was no water visible, not a sea, or a river, or even the measure of a reservoir for supplying towns or factory—all seemed desolate."

THE MOON AND THE WEATHER.—In reference to a popular delusion, that the change of the moon influences the weather, a correspondence has just taken place between Professor Nichol and a gentleman in Glasgow, Scotland, who takes an interest in meteorological phenomena. The learned Professor's opinion on this subject is contained in the following letter:

Observatory, July 5, 1856.

Dear Sir—I am in receipt of your letter regarding the supposed influence of the changes of the moon on the weather. You are altogether correct. No relation exists between these two classes of phenomena. The question has been tested and decided over and over again by the discussion of long and reliable meteorological tables; nor do I know any other positive way of testing any such point. I confess I cannot at present account for the origin of the prevalent belief. You are welcome to make any use you please of this note. Yours very faithfully, J. P. NICHOL.

HOW WOLVES CAJOLE AND CAPTURE WILD HORSES.

Wherever several of the larger wolves associate together for mischief, there is always a numerous train of smaller ones to follow in the rear, and act as auxiliaries in the work of destruction. Two large wolves are sufficient to destroy the most powerful horse, and seldom more than two ever begin the assault, although there may be a score in the gang. It is no less curious than amusing to witness this ingenious mode of attack. If there is no snow, or but little on the ground, two wolves approach in the most playful and caressing manner, lying rolling, frisking, about, until the too credulous and unsuspecting victim is completely put off his guard by curiosity and familiarity. During this the gang, equipping on their hind quarters, look on at a distance. After some time spent in this way, the two assailants separate, when one approaches the horse's head, the other his tail, with a shyness and cunning peculiar to themselves. At this stage of the attack their frolicsome approaches become very interesting—it is in right good earnest; the former is a mere decoy, the latter is the real assailant, and keeps his steadily fixed on the hamstrings or flank of the horse. The critical moment is then watched, and the attack is simultaneous; both wolves spring at their victim at the same instant, one to the throat the other to the flank—and if successful, which they generally are, the hind one never lets go his hold till the horse is completely disabled. Instead of springing toward or kicking to disengage himself, the horse turns round and round without attempting a defence. The wolf before then springs behind, to assist the other. The sinews are cut, and in half the time I have been describing it, the horse is on his side; his struggles are fruitless—the victory is won. At this signal, the lookers-on close in at a gallop; but the small fry of followers keep at a respectable distance, until their superiors are gorged and then they take their turn unmolested.

A CURE FOR BAD TEMPER.—A cheerful temper—not occasionally, but habitually cheerful—is a quality which no wise man would be willing to dispense with in choosing a wife. It is like a good fire in winter, diffusive and genial in its influence, and always approached with a confidence that it will comfort and do good. Attention to health is one great means of maintaining this excellence unimpaired, and attention to household affairs is another. The state of body which women call bilious is most inimical to habitual cheerfulness; and that which girls call having nothing to do, but which I could call idleness, is equally so. Let me entreat my young readers, if they feel a tendency to melancholy, if they are afflicted with cold feet and headache, but above all, with impatience and irritability, so that they can scarcely make a pleasant reply when spoken to.—let me entreat them to make a trial of the system I am recommending—not simply to run into the kitchen and trifle with the servants, but to set about doing something, that will add to the general comfort of the family, and that will, at the same time, relieve some member of the family of a portion of daily toil. I fear it is a very unromantic conclusion to come to, but my firm conviction is, that half the miseries of young women, and half their ill tempers might thus be avoided.—*Mrs. Eds.*